



**Report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the  
Working Group on the Future of the  
International Coffee Agreement held  
during the 125<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
International Coffee Council in  
September 2019**

**Extract from Decisions and Resolutions of the  
125<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Coffee Council: ICC 125-15**

1. In his capacity as Chair of the Working Group on the Future of the International Coffee Agreement 2007, H.E. Hermano Telles Ribeiro, gave a report to Council on the progress of the Working Group, which had been established to examine the current Agreement and to submit recommendations to Council as set out in document [WGFA-5/19](#).
2. This had included a call for proposals for change from Members to amend or renegotiate the Agreement grouped into four pillars to aid discussion as follows:
  - Objectives [Chapter I of ICA 2007];
  - Membership, votes and decision making [Chapters IV and VI of ICA 2007];
  - Structural and administrative matters [Chapters II, III, V, VII, VIII, XIII (not including Article 36), XIV and XV of ICA 2007]; and
  - Areas of work [Chapters IX, X, XI and XII and Article 36 of ICA 2007].
3. Regrettably, only one submission had been received by this date. The suggestions from Nicaragua were set out in document [WGFA-7/19](#), with Kenya submitting a position paper during the Council session, subsequently published as document [WGFA-8/19](#) – both advocating revisions to the current Agreement.
4. It was with regret that the Executive Director reported that the Chair of the Working Group would be stepping down due to being posted outside of the United Kingdom, however

he welcomed the fact that the current Vice-Chair of the Working Group, Ms Stefanie Küng, of Switzerland, would take on this role. As further proposals for change were needed in order to advance discussions, the Secretariat would invite Members to submit proposals by the end of October with a view to scheduling another Working Group meeting in November.

5. To further assist discussion, the online platform 'Slack' was briefly introduced as a mechanism for Members to comment and share proposals on the future of the Agreement. Further details would be shared at the next meeting of the Working Group.

6. The Council noted the report and agreed that all Members needed to participate actively in this important work in order to promote consensus.